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01033-US-01

1734

PATENT  
Attorney Reference Number 2340-67104

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**In re application of:** Hartman et al.

**Application No.** 10/003,519

**Filed:** October 30, 2001

**Confirmation No.** 8359

**For:** SPLICING SYSTEM AFFORDING A  
CONTINUOUS WEB MATERIAL  
SUPPLY FOR AN APPLICATOR

**Examiner:** Cheryl N. Hawkins

**Art Unit:** 1734

**Attorney Reference No.** 2340-67104

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

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Attorney  
for Applicant(s)

Date Mailed February 24, 2004

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Enclosed for filing in the application referenced above are the following:

- Fourth Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement
  - Form 1449 and references cited thereon
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required, or credit over-payment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.
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Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By

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cc: Docketing

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Attorney Reference Number 2340-67104

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U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE  
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Attorney  
for Applicant(s)

Date Mailed February 24, 2004

*Mary L. Bryant*

**FOURTH SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3)**

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
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ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

Listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 and enclosed herewith are several English-language documents. Applicants respectfully request that these documents be listed as references cited on the issued patent.

Applicants also note the following pending U.S. applications:

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/001,080, Hartman et al., filed October 30, 2001 (which corresponds to Publication No. US 2002/0059982, listed on the attached form PTO-1449); and

U.S. Patent Application No. 10/415,780, Middelstadt et al., filed December 1, 2003 (which corresponds to International Publication No. WO 02/39219, listed on the attached form PTO-1449).

Applicants filed this Information Disclosure Statement ("IDS") before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. As a result, no fee should be required to file this IDS. However, if the Patent Office determines that a fee is required for Applicants to file this IDS,



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please charge any such fees, or credit overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A **duplicate** copy of the transmittal sheet for this IDS is enclosed.

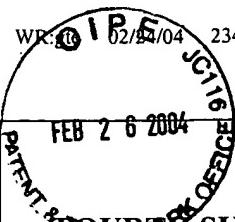
The filing of this IDS shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, prior art or otherwise material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

Respectfully submitted,

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<b>SEARCHED</b> <b>RELEVANT SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>	<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	2340-67104
	<b>Application Number</b>	10/003,519
	<b>Filing Date</b>	October 30, 2001
	<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Hartman
	<b>Art Unit</b>	1734
	<b>Examiner Name</b>	Cheryl N. Hawkins

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. (optional)	Number	Date	Name
		3,618,483	9 Nov 1971	Helm
		3,660,208	2 May 1972	Hubbard
		3,738,587	12 June 1973	Cristiani
		3,957,570	18 May 1976	Helm
		4,455,190	19 June 1984	Bianchetto et al.
		5,224,405	6 July 1993	Pohjola
		6,488,228	3 Dec 2002	Davies et al.
		2002/0059982	23 May 2002	Hartman et al.

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. (optional)	Number	Date	Country
		WO 02/39219 A2	16 May 2002	WIPO

EXAMINER SIGNATURE:	DATE CONSIDERED:
* Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through cite if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	